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Remarks/Arguments:

The Office Action of August 15, 2006 has been considered and the above amendment to claim 1 is believed to put the pending claims in condition for allowance. The applicant appreciates the Examiner's willingness to discuss this case, and in particular claim 1, with the applicant's representative.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite that the receiver claimed has a "radially inward bias expandable against the radially inward bias to allow the insertion of a barrel or barrel extension into said front recess, said front recess having an at-rest position smaller than the outer diameter dimension of the barrel or barrel extension which it is sized to receive to thereby anchor a barrel or barrel extension in place with respect to the receiver without additional compression means."

The specification fully supports claim 1 as amended herein. Note Page 8, lines 3-12:

The receiver's front recess can . . . be smaller than the outer dimension of the barrel or barrel extension, in which case it can be mechanically . . . expanded to allow the insertion of a barrel or barrel extension into the front recess and allowed to return to its at-rest position and thereby anchor the barrel or barrel extension in place with respect to the receiver."

Note also page 8, lines 25-28: "adequate compressive force against the barrel or barrel extension may be achieved by manufacturing a radially inward bias in the receiver so that the at-rest position of front recess 122 is smaller than the barrel or barrel extension radius"

No known prior art teaches or suggests that which is claimed in amended claim 1.

A notice of allowance of claims 1, 2, 5, 25 and 26 is therefore respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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Juli A. Lawrence